

BENTON COUNTY ELECTION COMMISSION

John M. Brown, Jr.
Chairman

Russell J. Anzalone
Secretary



Robbyn Tumey
Member

Kim Dennison
Election Coordinator

Office (479) 271-1049 - Fax (479) 271-5749
kmdennison@co.benton.ar.us or srose@co.benton.ar.us

MINUTES OF THE BENTON COUNTY ELECTION COMMISSION

September 17, 2012

Commission members present: John Brown, Jr., Robbyn Tumey, and Russell Anzalone

Others present: Kim Dennison, Sharon Rose, and Tiffany Underwood

Media: Tom Sissom, Benton County Daily Record

Chairman Brown called the meeting to order at 1:00 P.M. and welcomed everyone.

New Business:

- A. Certification of Ballots for the General Election to be held on November 6, 2012: Chairman Brown stated that the commissioners need to review and approve the ballots for the General Election to be held on November 6, 2012. Commissioner Anzalone questioned the gambling amendments placement on the ballot, stating it was his understanding the measure has not been approved for inclusion. Chairman Brown stated that the amendments were certified to the commission by the Secretary of State and they have to go on the ballot. Kim Dennison stated that because of the time constraints for preparing ballots, including the deadline for sending out overseas absentee ballots, required including the two (2) issues on the ballot. Kim reported that the county's voting system will read the votes cast on those issues, but the commission will not release the results. Chairman Brown stated that if an individual wants to appeal the issue, it still will be placed on the ballot. Chairman Brown asked Commissioners Anzalone and Tumey if they thought he should write State Representative, Mary Lou Slinkard, who is on the government agencies committee a letter concerning: (1) the community college and how the candidates are to appear on the ballot; and (2) the City of Siloam Springs is an Administrative form of Government under Election Laws of Arkansas and the Constitution of the State of Arkansas of 1874, Chapter 14. Chairman Brown stated he has not been able to define, in Chapter 14, the initiative that if the public wants to put an issue on the ballot, there is no way to get the required 15% of the Mayoral vote if the Mayor is not on the ballot. Chairman Brown stated that A.C.A. §7-5-207 states that all mayors will be listed on the ballot even if they are unopposed.

Chairman Brown reported that paper ballots for the General Election had been ordered from ES&S and that because the ballot is 19 inches long with a 1 inch stub, Absolute Printing will be unable to print our paper ballots. Commissioner Tumey asked Kim about the number of paper ballots ordered for the General Election. Kim responded that she ordered on the low side for paper ballots because the Ballot on Demand printer would be available and she had ordered plain paper ballot stock to print additional ballots if necessary.

The Commissioners reviewed the ballots for the General Election and Chairman Brown made a motion to accept the ballots for the General Election to be held on November 6, 2012. Motion duly seconded and carried by voice vote.

- B. Order Appointing Election Officials to Process, Count, and Canvass Absentee Ballots for the Annual School Election to be held September 18, 2012: Chairman Brown made a motion to approve Kim Dennison and Sharon Rose as Election Officials to process, count, and canvass absentee ballots for the Annual School Election to be held on September 18, 2012, seconded by Commissioner Tumey. Motion carried by voice vote. Commissioner Tumey asked Deputy County Clerk Tiffany Underwood how many absentee ballots had been mailed. Tiffany reported that 253 absentee ballots had been mailed and that 191 have been returned. She reported that 47 Federal ballots had been mailed and nine (9) had been returned.

Old Business:

None

Public Comment:

None

Adjournment:

Chairman Brown made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Anzalone. The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Russell J. Anzalone, Secretary
Prepared by Sharon Rose
Benton County Election Commission